

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system having diamond-like carbon (DLC) contact surfaces, comprising:

a pair of relatively movable, facing DLC contact surfaces at least one of which is coated with a DLC film, and

a lubricant (L) interposed between said DLC contact surfaces, said lubricant (L) comprising:

a lubricant base oil (A) containing a base oil (X) as a main component, and

a sulfur-containing molybdenum complex (B),

at least one friction modifier (C) selected from C1-C40 esters, amines, amides, alcohols, ethers, carboxylic acids, ketones, aldehydes, and carbonates, except for glycol esters and ether amines, and

a sulfur-free metal detergent (D) selected from alkali metal or alkaline earth metal salicylates,

wherein said base oil (X) consists at least one of a hydrocracked mineral oil, a wax-isomerized mineral oil, and a poly- α -olefin base oil, and has a kinematic viscosity of 2 to 20 mm²/s 3.5 to 5 mm²/s at 100 °C, a total aromatic content of not higher than 5 mass% 0 to 2 mass%, and a total sulfur content of not higher than 0.005 mass% 0.002 mass%.

2. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein said lubricant (L) further comprising ~~at least one of a friction modifier (C), a metal detergent (D), and a phosphorus-based anti-wear agent (E).~~

Please cancel claims 3 and 4.

5. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein said lubricant base oil (A) has ~~a sulfur content of not higher than 0.005 mass%, or substantially no sulfur content.~~

6. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said DLC contact surfaces are contact surfaces provided in an internal combustion engine.

7. (Original) The system according to claim 1, further comprising, in addition to said DLC contact surfaces, a pair of relatively movable, facing non-DLC contact surfaces having no DLC film, wherein said lubricant (L) is interposed both between said DLC contact surfaces and between said non-DLC contact surfaces.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of lubricating a system of claim 1, comprising lubricating a pair of relatively movable, facing DLC contact surfaces at least one of which is coated with a DLC film, with a lubricant (L) interposed between said DLC contact surfaces, said lubricant (L) comprising:

a lubricant base oil (A) containing a base oil (X) as main component, and
a sulfur-containing molybdenum complex (B),
at least one friction modifier (C) selected from C1-C40 esters, amines, amides, alcohols, ethers, carboxylic acids, ketones, aldehydes, and carbonates, except for glycol esters and ether amines, and
a sulfur-free metal detergent (D) selected from alkali metal or alkaline earth metal salicylates,

wherein said base oil (X) consists at least one of a hydrocracked mineral oil, a wax-isomerized mineral oil, and a poly- α -olefin base oil, and has a kinematic viscosity of ~~2 to 20 mm²/s~~ ~~3.5 to 5 mm²/s~~ at 100 °C, a total aromatic content of ~~not higher than 5 mass%~~ 0 to 2 mass%, and a total sulfur content of not higher than 0.005 mass% 0.002 mass%.

9. (Currently Amended) A lubricant for lubricating a system having a pair of relatively movable, facing DLC contact surfaces at least one of which is coated with a DLC film, said lubricant comprising:

a lubricant base oil (A) comprising a base oil (X) as a main component, wherein said base

oil (X) consists at least one of a hydrocracked mineral oil, a wax-isomerized mineral oil, and a poly- α -olefin base oil, and has a kinematic viscosity of ~~2 to 20 mm²/s~~ 3.5 to 5 mm²/s at 100 °C, a total aromatic content of ~~not higher than 5 mass%~~ 0 to 2 mass%, and a total sulfur content of not higher than ~~0.005 mass%~~ 0.002 mass%; and

a sulfur-containing molybdenum complex (B),
at least one friction modifier (C) selected from C1-C40 esters, amines, amides, alcohols, ethers, carboxylic acids, ketones, aldehydes, and carbonates, except for glycol esters and ether amines, and
a sulfur-free metal detergent (D) selected from alkali metal or alkaline earth metal salicylates.

10. (Currently Amended) The lubricant according to claim 9, further comprising ~~at least one of a friction modifier (C), a metal detergent (D), and a phosphorus-based anti-wear agent (E).~~

Please cancel claim 11 and 12.

13. (Original) The lubricant according to claim 9, wherein a content of said sulfur-containing molybdenum complex (B) is 0.02 to 0.1 mass% of a total amount of the lubricant in terms of molybdenum element.

Please cancel claims 14 and 15.

16. (Original) The lubricant according to claim 10, wherein said phosphorus-based anti-wear agent (E) comprises zinc dithiophosphate.

17. (Original) The lubricant according to claim 10, wherein said phosphorus-based anti-wear agent (E) comprises a sulfur-free phosphorus compound.